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THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION —
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



Photograph by Fred R. Stanger

Main Entrance
Milwaukee's New
Sports

ARENA

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ARCHITECTS*

NOVEMBER 1950
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THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

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WISCONSIN ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WISCONSIN ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 27, 1950

This meeting was held on Friday evening at the Plankinton Hotel with a quorum present or represented by proxy.

At the present time the terms of the directors at large expire simultaneously and consideration is being given to a change in the by-laws to provide for six (6) directors at large, elected for terms of 3 years, 2 of such terms expiring each year. This subject to further consideration and formal action by the membership.

Thomas Hilary Flad of Madison was elected to associate membership. Bruce David Boswell of Milwaukee was elected to Jr. Associate membership. Gordon A. Phillips, associated with Rubens F. Clas, Inc., has been transferred from the Massachusetts Chapter to the Wisconsin Architects Association.

The Indiana Society of Architects, a chapter of the A.I.A., calls our attention to the coming Great Lakes District Regional Seminar on new materials and new uses for materials, scheduled to be held at South Bend, Indiana, on December 1 and 2, 1950. All of our members are invited to participate.

The Wisconsin Chapter of the Producers' Council has submitted a schedule of joint A.I.A. and Producers' Council meetings for the 1950-1951 season. Those scheduled to date as follows:

Tuesday evening, Nov. 14 — Armstrong Cork Co. Monday evening, Nov. 20 — Pat Paterson with an "Alcoa" film, Vern Hart with Kawneer. Monday evening, Dec. 11 — Jack Casey — "The Speakman Co." Orle Brown — "Quiet Please"

Other programs are being scheduled and our entire membership is invited to participate.

Some of the construction jobs in the Milwaukee area have been delayed due to jurisdictional controversy between the Sheet Metal Workers and the Steam Fitters. It is hoped that the differences will be amiably settled promptly in order to permit these jobs to proceed. It is unfortunate that such differences arise and especially at times such as these when there is a demand for prompt action and early completion of our projects.

The Beaux Arts Institute of Design, New York, has submitted a three year program in architectural design. This will be referred to the Education Committee for consideration.

The Illuminating Engineering Society, Milwaukee Chapter, is planning three weekly demonstrations and discussions for architectural draftsmen, designers and architects on "Modern Lighting Applications". A questionnaire will soon be sent out in-

venting suggestions as to the preferred time and subjects for these discussions.

Harry Bogner who has been incapacitated recently due to a serious leg injury has submitted the suggestion that arrangements be made to have a circulating exhibition prepared by the British Ministry of Town and Country Planning on the Re-development of New Towns exhibited at one of our later Chapter meetings. This is a good suggestion and one which will be referred to the Exhibit Committee, and if possible this exhibit can be held in conjunction with our next convention.

Consideration is being given to obtaining copies of the A.I.A. BULLETIN and JOURNAL for Chapter Associates and Junior Associate members. Something more conclusive on this will be submitted later.

F. A. LUBER, Secy.-Treas.

* * *

DINNER MEMBERSHIP MEETING WISCONSIN ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION MILWAUKEE DIVISION

The Milwaukee Division of the Wisconsin Architects Association held its monthly meeting Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 6:15 P.M. in the Lotus Room of the Plankinton Hotel.

Charles B. Brown, Chicago, general sales manager, Building Products division of Kaiser Aluminum Co., Inc., spoke on Kaiser Aluminum Siding and Kaiser Aluminum Shade Screens. He was presented by Dan F. Manning of the K.H.P. Milwaukee Steel Products Co. The talk was followed by a question and answer session.

William H. Lewis, president of the K.H.P. Milwaukee Steel Co., spoke on "Infra" aluminum insulation.

* * *

EDMUND R. PURVES, F.A.I.A. A.I.A., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Biographical Data

The administrative head of the professional association of architects, Edmund R. Purves was trained as a architect and practiced in Philadelphia for fifteen years. He also held high elective offices in the profession, being president of the Pennsylvania Society of Architects from 1936 to 1938, and one of the ten regional directors of the American Institute of Architects from 1938 to 1941.

Mr. Purves became Washington representative of the American Institute of Architects at the time of the defense emergency in 1941, and upon his return from military service with the Seventh Air Force was appointed as the Institute's Director of Public and Professional Relations. He was named Executive Director in 1949, following the retirement of Edward C. Kemper.

While attending the University of Pennsylvania architectural school in 1917, Mr. Purves interrupted his studies to join the American Field Service with the

French Army. Later he served in the American Expeditionary Force. His service in six major engagements was recognized by the Croix de Guerre with Silver Star, the Verdun Medal, the Field Service Medal, and the Victory Medal with four Battle Clasps.

Returning to the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Purves completed his architectural studies in 1920, and subsequently spent altogether three years in professional study and travel in Europe. He also attended the Atelier Gromort, in Paris.

Mr. Purves founded a partnership for the private practice of architecture in Philadelphia with Kenneth M. Day. This association was dissolved after five years, and, following a period of practice alone, Mr. Purves then joined with Thomas Pym Cope and Henry Gordon Stewart to form a new firm.

He has filled numerous representative posts in the architectural field, including that of delegate to the 1946 International Technical Congress in Paris, and chairman of the Construction Advisory Committee of the General Services Administration, and is active in numerous civic groups.

* * *

REPORTS FOR DUTY

Ronald L. Buser, navy reservist and apprentice in the architectural office of Frederick J. Sweitzer, reported to Destroyer U.S.S. Dickson at New Orleans for active duty. He is a Junior Associate Chapter Member.

* * *

NAHB, FORUM SPONSOR HOUSE DESIGN COMPETITION

In order to induce participation of A.I.A. members in the House Designs Competition sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders and the Architectural Forum, Walter A. Taylor, Director of The American Institute's Department of Education and Research, writes:

"As you know, The Institute has set up a Committee for Collaboration with the National Association of Home Builders and this Committee has just held a very productive meeting with the corresponding committee of N.A.H.B. We believe that participation of well qualified architects in this Competition will contribute to the objectives of our collaboration with the Merchant Builders . . . Copies of the program are readily available from the National Association of Home Builders, 1028 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., or the Architectural Forum, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20."

The Jury for the national and regional competitions will consist of three architects and two home builders, the national awards amounting to \$20,500, and the regional awards amounting to \$12,500. In addition, three series of special awards aggregating \$24,000 will be made. The jury for the Special Awards competition will consist of three architects and will be known as the Technical Jury.

The termination of the competition is 5 P.M., Friday, December 15, 1950. Carl G. Lane, A.I.A., is professional advisor.

RESEARCH CORRELATION CONFERENCE NUMBER TWO

The Building Research Advisory Board announces its second research correlation conference, to be held November 21. Subject of the conference is "Fire Resistance of Exterior Non-Load-Bearing Walls."

The meeting will be convened at 9:45 A.M. in the auditorium of the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., in Washington. Registration will be open from 9:00 to 9:45. The conference will last for only one day.

The program will present a discussion of new principles of design, engineering, and construction which raise new problems in regard to requirements affecting this type of wall, as well as a review of existing criteria and regulations.

The following exceptionally well qualified speakers, the announcement reads, have agreed to present papers:

George N. Thompson, Assistant Chief, Building Technology Division, National Bureau of Standards, U. S. Department of Commerce.

J. Walter Severinghaus, Partner; Skidmore, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Architects-Engineers.

Robert W. Davison, Research Director, Howard T. Fisher and Associates, Inc., Architects-Planners-Engineers.

Edward X. Tuttle, Vice-President, Turner Construction Company.

James K. McElroy, Assistant Technical Secretary, National Fire Protection Association.

Emil J. Szendy, A.I.A., Technical Director, New York State Building Code Commission.

John W. Dunham, Assistant Chief Structural Engineer, Public Buildings Service, General Service Administration.

Chairman for the program will be Carl Boester, member of the Building Research Advisory Board, and Director of the Housing Research Division, Purdue Research Foundation.

Explanatory Purpose of the Conference

The relationship between innovation and the limiting effects of building codes and regulations is always a subject of interest to the building industry. A focal point for innovation is the non-load-bearing, or "curtain", exterior wall.

This element of the structure is affected considerably by new trends in architectural design, new developments in engineering research, and simplification of construction for the purpose of reducing costs. The adoption of new principles of design or construction depends upon their conformity with existing codes and regulations, in this case chiefly regulations concerned with the fire resistance of exterior walls.

Current work on the revision or unification of codes involves problems originating with the adoption of innovations in design and engineering.

Consequently, there are two groups holding broadly different viewpoints on the subject of this conference, both of whom may be benefited by a face-to-face discussion of the various problems involved.

The purpose of this conference, therefore, conforms with the general pattern for BRAB research correla-

(Continued on Page 9)

INLAND STEEL PRODUCTS CO. NAMES NEW BRANCH MANAGERS

Robert S. Schneider, General Sales Manager for Inland Steel Products Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Manufacturers of steel building products and consumers' specialties, has announced the appointment of two new branch managers, and the reassignment of four members of its Baltimore Branch Sales Staff.

C. F. Gruenert, Manager of the company's Detroit Branch, has been named to succeed A. E. Kirchgraber as Manager of the Rochester-Buffalo Branch, and R. E. Wollert has been appointed Manager of the Detroit Branch to succeed Mr. Gruenert. The Rochester-Buffalo Branch supplies Milcor products to Western and Upstate New York, and Northern Pennsylvania, while Detroit serves Lower Michigan.

* * *

ANNOUNCE NEW

ARCHITECTURAL FIRM

Two Milwaukee Architects, who had been practicing independently, both with offices in the Colby-Abbot building, have joined forces. They are using both full names, the firm known as George G. Schneider and Ralph E. Schaefer, and are continuing at the same address, having enlarged the quarters occupied by Mr. Schaefer.

The merger was a natural move in that both were members of the Associated Housing Architects, appointed by the Milwaukee Housing Authority as Architects for the public housing projects, Northlawn, Southlawn and Berryland. They are also members of the architectural firm which designed the Housing Authority project, known as Westlawn, now under construction.

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RENOWNED ARCHITECTS LEAVE WORDS OF WISDOM

Words, powerful as the greatness of their concrete works, were left to posterity by two of America's most celebrated architects, both of Chicago.

Said the late Louis Sullivan:

"Accept my assurance that the Architect is and imperatively shall be an interpreter of the national life of his time — you are called upon not to betray, but to express the life of our own day and celebration. A fraudulent and surreptitious use of historical documents, however suavely presented, however cleverly plagiarized, however neatly re-packed, however shrewdly intrigued, will constitute and will be held to be a betrayal of trust."

The late Daniel Burnham admonished architects:

"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized.

"Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever growing insistency. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us. Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty."

* * *

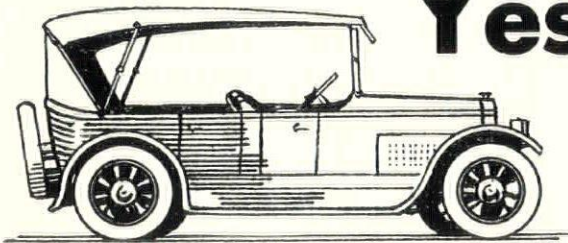
PREDECORATED PANEL BOARD CONSTRUCTION SOLUTION

Harassed by material shortages and extended delivery schedules for many vital construction items, members of the building industry are offered a solution by the using of predecorated panelboard for finishing walls and ceilings. The Predecorated Panelboard Council, Cleveland, offering this solution, reports that building supply dealers who handle this relatively new interior-finishing material have an ample stock on hand, and that factory orders are being shipped on current scheduling.

Besides being one of the most readily available building materials, predecorated panelboard offers an excellent opportunity for keeping costs in line," says W. B. Thomas, Commissioner of the Council. "The cost of predecorated panelboard has increased less than 15 per cent in the past 10 years, as against a 200 per cent rise for other types of building materials during the same period."

Mr. Thomas further explains that the rigid, hard-pressed sheets, with their many attractive colors and plain or line patterns, prove equally useful in kitchen, dinette, recreation room, utility room, and bathroom. The baked-on plastic enamel finish cleans with the wipe of a rag, and retains its color for years without fading.

Predecorated panelboard, which also comes in wood and marble finishes, is easily and permanently affixed to any dry, flat wall surface with a special adhesive.



Yesterday's Best isn't Good Enough TODAY

Like automobiles, wiring systems must be engineered and designed to meet present day demands. Wiring that "filled the bill" in years past is no longer adequate. The job has outgrown old type wiring and demands on wiring systems continue to grow.

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A.I.A. WARNS AGAINST SACRIFICING LIVABILITY FOR ECONOMY IN PUBLIC HOUSING; OFFERS SOLUTIONS

WASHINGTON — Some ways to get economy and efficiency in public housing despite adverse building conditions have been offered Federal officials by housing experts of The American Institute of Architects. The architects' statement followed criticisms of much current housing design work recently voiced by John T. Egan, Commissioner of the Public Housing Administration, who warned that expensive and extravagant housing designs imperiled the entire national program.

Mounting building costs and the uncertain supply of some building materials have dashed the hopes of many for lower cost housing. Perry Coke Smith, New York architect and chairman of the AIA's Committee on Urban Planning and Housing, admitted. Newly imposed Federal building controls aren't the trouble. Rigid cost ceilings in national housing laws make cost reductions necessary if the hopes of low-income families for the large output of public housing authorized by Congress are not to vanish completely, he said.

Mr. Smith rejected Commissioner Egan's "austerity" program of smaller sized dwellings as insufficient to cope with unsettled building conditions and high costs, and warned against attempts to maintain public housing output by sacrificing dwelling space, livability, and other standards of good housing.

"Building bobtail housing is not the answer to today's building squeeze," Mr. Smith contended. He warned it would defeat the social objectives of public housing.

Congress will have to reconsider the fundamentals of the long-range national housing program in the light of changed conditions, Mr. Smith advised. Meanwhile he urged a more enlightened recognition of the importance of building design and greater administration efforts to push building industry reforms.

"The times require that we strive more energetically than ever for building code reforms, dimensional coordination, and improved housing technology through research," Mr. Smith said. "We must persevere in urging these well-established measures, already specifically authorized by Congress, that should lead to important economies in building. But these are not the only routes to low-cost housing.

"Equally great economies in housing will come about through improved methods of purchasing building materials and subcontracting. We need those improvements in administration, as well as these economy measures Congress has already identified, to achieve really substantial savings," the New York architect explained.

As an instance of how costs have been reduced in large-scale housing through what he termed "better shopping for building materials and equipment," Mr. Smith cited steady reduction over a period of years in the cost of bathrooms in New York City housing projects as the result of standardization and contractor-training.

"By developing a group of subcontractors who have become highly skilled in certain types of rigorously standardized work, and by making them know that

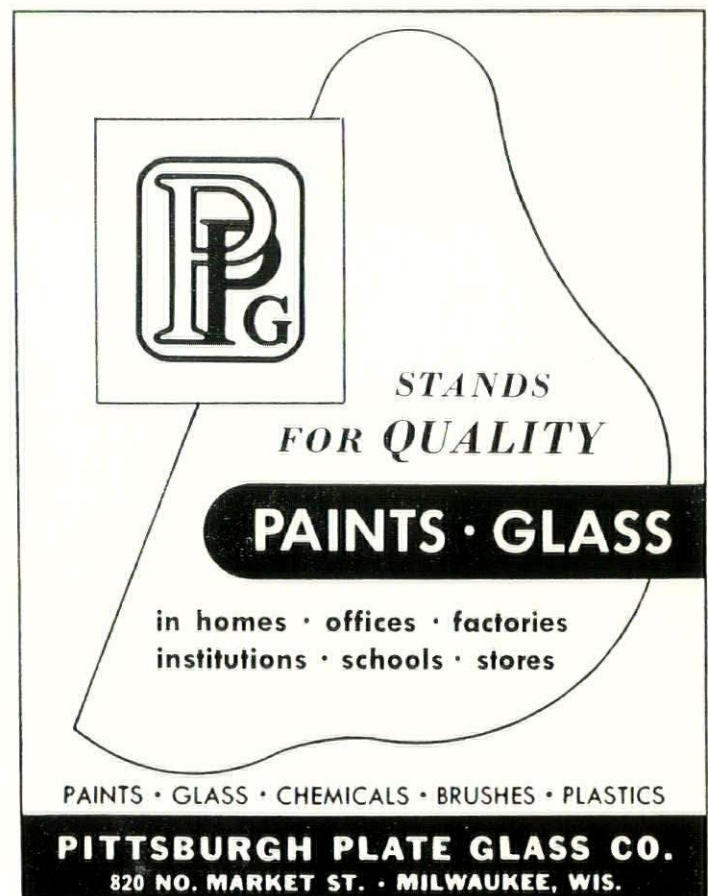
they were getting a square deal while still preserving competitive conditions, a large contracting organization has demonstrated it has been possible to obtain major cost savings. In varying degrees these results can be obtained by such methods by any public housing authority anywhere," Mr. Smith stated.

To overcome present difficulties in housing administration will require a fresh approach by Congress too, according to Mr. Smith, who was designer of the New York Life Insurance Company's Fresh Meadows housing development on Long Island, a 2,000 family project containing houses and skyscraper apartments that has been widely hailed by housing experts as the urban housing ideal.

"To recast the national housing program in the light of changed building conditions, Congress itself must decide what the national housing standard should be," Mr. Smith explained. "That decision must be made in terms of livability, based where possible on objective research findings, and not in terms of what is usually called amenity.

"Once that overall decision is made, architects can translate it into project designs that fit the needs and building capabilities of their own locality.

"Fair competitive building costs must be determined locally, rather than nationally, as Congress has attempted to determine them in the present national housing act.



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"When these decisions have been made, then Congress can reasonably conclude how large a national housing program we can afford in the light of social needs as well as other items in the national budget," the architect advised.

Referring further to the cost limitations of present housing legislation which were forcing smaller dwellings, Mr. Smith stated that he fully appreciated the administrative and political difficulties inherent in the direction of a Federal bureau under a money mandate from Congress. He offered the full cooperation of the American Institute of Architects to Congress and Federal housing agencies in what he called "the job of rethinking the fundamentals of the public housing emergency that has been forced upon us, and will be forced upon us further, by the changed building conditions brought about by the national defense program."

Studies of livability in housing, and the development of building contract terms better suited to obtaining economical construction, were two activities in which the architects' national professional organization might work cooperatively with Federal officials, Mr. Smith said.

Commissioner Egan, in his recent Detroit speech to the National Association of Housing Officials reported that experience with the costs of public housing projects "has been most disturbing." He described numerous projects upon which construction costs exceeded preliminary estimates, or on which all bids had been rejected as too high. The housing official blamed local housing authorities and their architects for having strayed away from "a strict economical approach in the design of projects."

The results of a Public Housing Administration survey of 100 housing development programs disclosed by Mr. Egan last week, showed that more than half had provided what Federal officials considered overly large amounts of dwelling space. The architects organization had offered to make an independent analysis of the results of this survey.

Mr. Egan called for greater austerity and announced his agency would restore 1942 wartime housing standards as minimums for current work. He also demanded projects designed for minimum requirements of livability, but did not specify what they were. He condemned as unjustified housing with "more dwelling space than decent standards require," and proposed a reduction in the proportion of dwellings for larger families.

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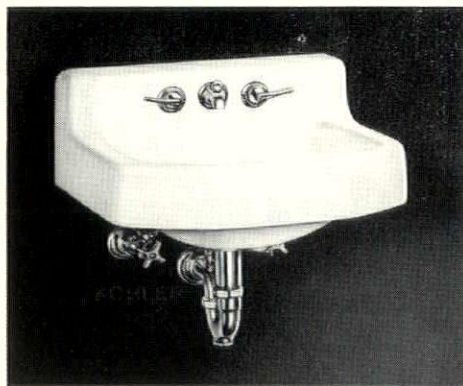
OLD YET NEW

Metal lath is one of our oldest manufactured building materials, yet one of the newest as judged by modern usage, according to the Metal Lath Manufacturers Association, Cleveland, Ohio. The first patent on metal lath was granted to a man named Peter Naylor of New York City as far back as 1839. But at no time in our nation's history has metal lath been so widely used as it has been in the past few years, the Association explains.

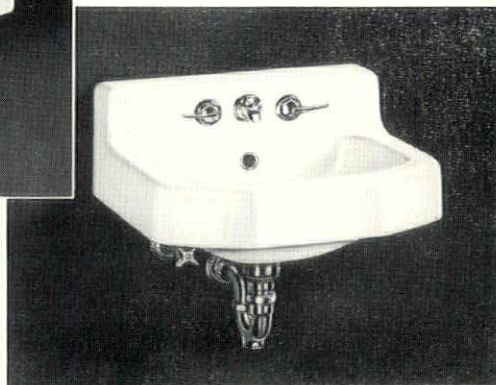
* * *

According to a recent report by the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, aluminum awnings on the south and west sides of buildings will decrease the air-conditioning load by 15%.

THE *New* HAMPTON



LEFT:
WITHOUT
OVERFLOW



RIGHT:
WITH
BRASS OVERFLOW

The popular Hampton enameled iron lavatory is now available without overflow as well as with a brass overflow.

The Hampton is extensively used in homes and apartments. Features that appeal to architects, home planners, and builders include the unobstructed shelf across the back, ample basin, compact mixer fitting with Synchro pop-up drain. The lustrous, easy-to-clean Kohler enamel is fused to non-flexing iron, cast for rigidity. Fittings are of durable brass, chromium-plated. Kohler Co., Kohler, Wis.

KOHLER OF KOHLER

CAPE COD COTTAGE LEADS STYLE PARADE FOR 1950

By W. CLIFFORD HARVEY

Real Estate Editor of *The Christian Science Monitor*

The Cape Cod cottage is not only here to stay — it leads the home-style parade of 1950.

Despite the talk of "modern" trends in picture windows, flat roofs, and solar heating equipment, the mellowed Cape Codder has been quietly but effectively perforating the national landscape with its simplicity and charm.

That much is evident in new buildings mushrooming along the 67-mile length of the Massachusetts jog of land from whence the Cape Cod cottage gleaned its name. Beyond that, the native Bay State dwelling is settling cozily from Maine to California and from Chicago to New Orleans.

A National Geographic Society news bulletin surveyed the housing field this week to come up with the conclusion that there is no getting away from the characteristic all-American quality of "home" as symbolized in the Cape Cod cottage.

As trim as a sail in a Massachusetts Bay wind, the Cape Codder has withstood the blasts of strict modernization in home styles to take top place in the big-scale, postwar housing boom.

What gives these "sober-looking" houses precedence over other styles? How have they managed to widen their popularity since the Cape Cod pattern first was seen on the Massachusetts coastline about the turn of the 18th century.

Simplicity of design, the National Geographic has answered. The pattern was comfortable-looking, snug, and beautifully proportioned. And if anything in a house causes passers-by to turn and take a second and third look it is "good proportion."

But how the Cape Cod has changed in many respects on today's landscape! Builders have done a job on the basic design of the old-time Cape Cod with its unbroken roofline running from ridge to the top of the first-floor windows, with a central doorway, and twin windows on either side of the doorway!

BASIC LINES REMAIN

Today dormers appear in front and on back for more room upstairs. Front doors have been shifted off-center to space two windows on one side, and one on the other. The width and breadth of the houses have shrunk, but the roof ridges are higher. And in some Cape Cod cottages, picture windows have appeared to plague the "modern" architect and builder.

But the basic lines of the old Cape Codder are still clearly defined, even in houses now being built as far from Cape Cod as the Pacific Coast.

It was not until the late 1920's, according to the National Geographic, that the Cape Cod cottage pattern began to spread across the country. Summer resort promoters did it. Recognizing the charm and economy of the native dwelling, they built hundreds of them to accommodate an influx of summer residents.

The residents, in turn, carried their visions of quaint, cozy homesteads to all parts of the nation. And during the business depression and the postwar period, economy dictated the nationwide return to basic Cape Cod lines.

TIME BRINGS CHANGES

But modern living has required some changes in the original pattern. So you see dormers breaking into the roof lines for more room upstairs, particularly for bathroom space. You see kitchens moved into the old-time breezeway connections with the carriage house and woodshed. And you see the carriage house and woodshed being converted into attached garages.

The modern Cape Cod cottage owner also burns mazda lamps instead of candles, and he uses the elaborate mixer rather than the butter churn. Mass-production methods have vastly altered the materials and planning for Cape Cod cottages.

So, when the moving family says it is shifting into a Cape Cod cottage today, it might mean a simple, diminutive structure. It may look small from the front, an ell might run well into the rear yard. A recessed doorway may have been tacked on at the front entrance. Or it may have a giant picture window or a bay at the rear of the living room, or it might be just another ranchhouse with a Cape Cod flavor.

Only a few architects, like Royal Barry Wills of Boston, have managed to modernize the Cape Cod dwelling without ruining its mellowed charm and grace proportions. Even Mr. Wills is charged by so-called contemporary designers with trying to make a modern mongrel out of a traditional thoroughbred.

But, whereas simplicity and utility of design launched the Cape Cod house in the first place, postwar demands for economy in planning and construction tend to perpetuate the Massachusetts style as the most popular home of all time.

— From *Christian Science Monitor*

DODGE REPORTS

NEW YORK — Construction contract awards in the 37 states east of the Rockies in September declined from the all-time high figure set in August, but were still high enough to bring the first nine months of 1950 well ahead of the same period in 1949, it is reported by F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists.

The September award total of \$1,286,541,000 was down 17 per cent from August's record \$1,548,876,000, but was 18 per cent higher than September, 1949.

The nine-month total of \$11,109,746,000 was 50 per cent higher than the comparable total for 1949.

The total of square feet of floor area for the first nine months of 1950 was 1,007,231,000, 63 per cent higher than the same total for 1949.

Residential awards in September totaled \$549,585,000, a decrease of 27 per cent from the August figure, but an increase of 5 per cent over September, 1949. Non-residential awards totaled \$498,725,000 in September, 8 per cent less than the August figure, but 45 per cent higher than September, 1949.

Public and private works and utilities totaled \$238,231,000, 6 per cent lower than the August figure but 7 per cent higher than September last year.

STEEL DATA

Bookings of fabricated structural steel for September amounted to 249,315 tons, slightly less than the previous month, but up some 107% over the corresponding month in 1949. According to reports received by the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., the first nine months of 1950 totaled 1,821,256 tons, the highest since 1941 when 1,837,874 tons were reported for the same period.

(Continued from Page 4)

tion conferences, namely: to bring together men of experience in several fields of professional work and technology to discuss a subject with these objectives in mind:

1. To report fundamental data available on the subject.
2. To define and evaluate new problems raised by the subject.
3. To suggest research or procedures necessary for the solution of these new problems, and to stimulate interest in solving them.

Scope and Nature of the Program

The one-day program is planned as a unit; each speaker dealing with a phase of the subject from the viewpoint of his professional experience.

The treatment of the subject as planned does, however, divide into three stages:

1. Definition of the terms involved, and review of existing tests, criteria, and regulations affecting the non-load-bearing exterior wall. This section will be handled by Mr. Thompson.
2. Discussion of new trends in design, engineering, and construction, stating the problems encountered in adapting innovations to existing regulations. The speakers presenting this discussion will be Messrs. Severinghaus, Davison, and Tuttle.
3. Discussion of existing test procedures and regulations from several viewpoints, with objective appraisals of the problems involved in establishing or revising test procedures and regulations. In this discussion, the speakers will be Messrs. McElroy, Szendy, and Dunham.

Question periods are scheduled following each paper, and time is allowed for a general discussion at the end of the formal program open to participation by the audience.

* * *

MANUFACTURERS' PRODUCTION PLANS DEPENDENT UPON GOVERNMENT CURBS

Washington — Unless the government soon notifies the building industry as to how far it intends to cut back construction volume, there is serious danger that the supply of building products will get out of balance, A. Naughton Lane, president of the Producers' Council stated.

"Inasmuch as the government now is the dominant factor in determining the size of the market for materials and equipment, manufacturers' production plans necessarily are dependent to a very considerable extent upon decisions made in Washington," Mr. Lane said.

"Although the materials needs of the rearmament program perhaps can not yet be predicted with too much exactness, it should be possible to announce certain limits within which the industry can act. In the absence of such information, there is every likeli-

hood that producers of some materials will overshoot the market, while others will adopt a too conservative policy. The result would be a costly surplus of some products and an equally costly shortage of others.

"Confusion as to the amount of building which will be permitted to go forward in the next six or 12 months is heightened by reports that some types of building are to be forbidden, that credit restrictions on commercial construction will be more severe than on residential building, and that housing credit curbs will be eased if present limitation prove too tight.

"In addition to helping fill the complete needs of the defense production program, building products manufacturers want to meet the full requirements of civilian construction, but cannot afford to take chances of building up excessive inventories which the market cannot absorb."

Mr. Lane, of St. Louis, Mo., was elected president of the Producers' Council, national organization of building products manufacturers, at the Council's recent annual meeting.

Mr. Lane, who is vice president of the Monarch Metal Weatherstrip Corp. succeeds James M. Ashley, of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Other officers elected for the coming year are Elliott C. Spratt, The Hillyard Co., St. Joseph, Mo., first vice president; R. S. Hammond, Johns-Manville Sales Corp., New York, N. Y., second vice president; F. J. Close, Aluminum Co. of America, Pittsburgh, Pa., treasurer, and Charles A. Snyder, Richmond Screw Anchor Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., secretary.

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RESEARCH DEMONSTRATES EFFECT OF PROPER CONSTRUCTION ON CONCRETE DURABILITY

Concrete performances is directly related to many factors including cement content, mix proportions, types of aggregate, and proper construction practices. The desire on the part of both users and manufacturers of cement to improve the quality of concrete has led to much research on the subject. An interesting project involving the long-time study of the performance of cement and concrete is being conducted by the Portland Cement Association with the cooperation of several State Highway Departments and other agencies. This investigation was started in 1940 and includes tests at many locations.

At one project near Chicago, concrete specimens are exposed to natural weathering. The project includes more than 1000 specimens of three different types. One type of specimen is a slab 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 6 in. thick and 3 ft. 6 in. long, cast in place on the ground to simulate a concrete pavement. Another is a concrete box 2 ft. 6 in. square, cast in place and filled with sand and water. This type of specimen represents such structures as retaining walls, bridge abutments and ballasted deck bridges in direct contact with wet soil. The third type of specimen is an 8-in. square column, 5 ft. long, embedded 2 ft. in the ground. It represents structures such as bridge piers, foundations and walls partly exposed to weathering and partly buried in the ground. Six different mixes and two combinations of aggregate were used in the construction of the boxes and columns.

This long-time study enables engineers to examine concrete specimens under conditions of exposure comparable to the exposure of field structures, and to determine what properties of the concrete are responsible for the differences in their performance. Certain differences already are apparent in some of the box specimens. These demonstrate quite effectively the benefit of air-entrainment and, with certain reservations, the benefit of low slump versus high slump, rich mixes versus lean mixes, summer versus late fall construction, and good- versus poor-quality aggregate. There are also preliminary indications of the effects of certain construction techniques. All of these factors have a direct influence upon the durability of concrete in the field.

Box specimens for each of the six mixes and two aggregate combinations were made with 27 different cements representing all five ASTM types. This wide range of variables offers an excellent opportunity for studying their effects on the performance of concrete.

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Although this project is intended primarily as a comparison of cement performance, the effect of factors such as mix proportions, quality of aggregate and construction practices may be studied, provided proper consideration is given to the time of year in which the different specimens were cast.

Much of the deterioration in field structures occurs at the tops of wing walls, retaining walls, parapets and at similar locations. Water gain and laitance accumulated during construction produce a weak porous concrete at the point of attack by weathering and are largely responsible for the resulting deterioration. This effect is clearly seen in the foregoing illustrations. In all cases, the distinction is greatest at the top and becomes less as the distance from the top increases. Most difficulties from this segregation of materials in placing can be eliminated by over-filling the forms and allowing the concrete to stand for about an hour before it is struck off.

Many other interesting developments in the performance of the concrete specimens are being observed in this test program. As the work progresses and conclusions are reached, changes in present concrete practices and specifications may be expected. Tests such as these are of little value, however, unless the users of concrete put the knowledge thus gained into use in the field. Research is beneficial only to the extent that its results are put into actual practice. This requires adequate specifications, proper materials and equipment, qualified supervision and the support of field personnel by management officials.

* * *

FIRM IS MOVING IN AS UN MOVES OUT

Under plans announced by the United Nations for moving gradually into its new headquarters in east side Manhattan, the space being vacated by the world organization is immediately taken over for Sperry Gyroscope Corp. operations as each unit of the United Nations moves out. The move has been under way gradually for several weeks, but has slowed down during the general assembly session. Officials of the United Nations expect to be completely moved into the new skyscraper headquarters by early next year.

A nation-wide drive to collect \$70,000 for the erection of a fountain outside the United Nations Manhattan headquarters is being opened under the auspices of the American Association for the United Nations. The children of the United States are being asked to contribute their pennies to the campaign.

ANTHONY WUCHTERL

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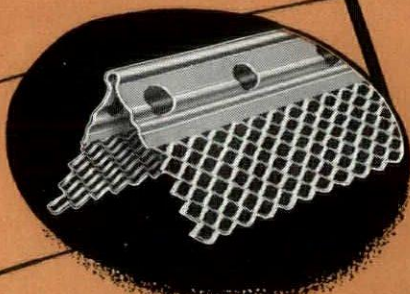
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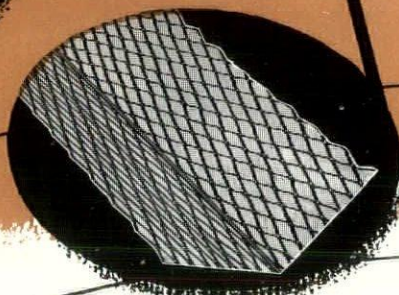
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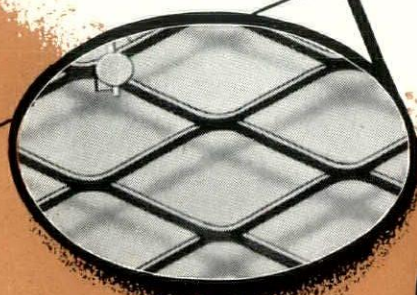
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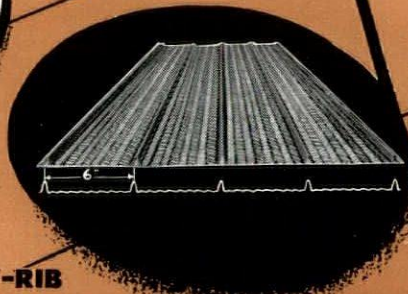
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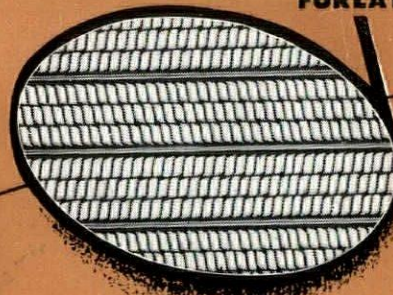
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